

Claims

1. A method of preventing or treating cancer in a subject, said method comprising the steps of:
  - 5 surgically resecting a tumor from the subject; and
  - administering an attenuated, replication-competent, oncolytic herpes virus to the site of surgical resection.
- 10 2. The method of claim 1, wherein said cancer is present at the site of surgical resection.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein said cancer has metastasized from the site of surgical resection.
- 15 4. The method of claim 3, wherein said cancer is present in the lymphatic system of said subject.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein said cancer is present in a lymph node of said subject.
- 20 6. The method of claim 1, wherein said herpes virus is a herpes simplex-1-derived virus.
7. The method of claim 6, wherein said herpes virus is NV1023.
- 25 8. The method of claim 1, wherein said subject is a human.
9. The method of claim 1, wherein said herpes virus is administered to said subject by injection.
- 30 10. The method of claim 1, wherein said herpes virus comprises a heterologous nucleic acid molecule encoding a therapeutic product.

11. The method of 10, wherein said therapeutic product is selected from the group consisting of cytotoxins, immunomodulatory proteins, tumor antigens, antisense nucleic acid molecules, and ribozymes.

5           12. The method of claim 1, further comprising administering a second anticancer treatment to said subject.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein said second anticancer treatment is selected from the group consisting of chemotherapy, biological therapy, radiation  
10   therapy, and gene therapy.

14. A method of treating cancer in a subject, said method comprising injecting an attenuated, replication-competent, oncolytic herpes virus into a tumor of said subject.

15           15. The method of claim 14, further comprising resecting said tumor from said subject after injection of said virus into said tumor.

16. The method of claim 15, further comprising administering an attenuated, replication-competent, oncolytic herpes virus to the site of surgical resection.  
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17. The method of claim 14, wherein said herpes virus is a herpes simplex-1-derived virus.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein said herpes virus is NV1023.  
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19. The method of claim 14, wherein said subject is a human.

20. The method of claim 14, wherein said herpes virus comprises a heterologous nucleic acid molecule encoding a therapeutic product.  
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21. The method of claim 20, wherein said therapeutic product is selected from the group consisting of cytotoxins, immunomodulatory proteins, tumor antigens, antisense nucleic acid molecules, and ribozymes.

22. The method of claim 14, further comprising administering a second anticancer treatment to said subject.

5           23. The method of claim 22, wherein said second anticancer treatment is selected from the group consisting of chemotherapy, biological therapy, radiation therapy, and gene therapy.

10           24. Use of an attenuated, replication-competent, oncolytic herpes virus in the preparation of a medicament for preventing or treating metastasis of cancer in a patient in whom a tumor has been surgically resected, by administration of said virus to the site of the surgical resection.

15           25. The use of claim 24, wherein said herpes virus is a herpes simplex-1-derived virus.

20           26. Use of an attenuated, replication-competent, oncolytic herpes virus in the preparation of a medicament for preventing or treating cancer in a subject by intratumoral injection of said virus.

25           27. The use of claim 26, wherein said herpes virus is a herpes simplex-1-derived virus.